# In A Perfect World...

# By Members of MAPS

### Mountain View Middle School

In a Perfect World, there would be not judging on appearance. Once there was a girl named Sarah who was judged by her parents. They thought they were helping her when they told her she was odd and needed to change in order for people to like her. They made her feel she wasn't worthy of friends. One day she met a friend who accepted her just as she was. Then her parents realized Sarah had a friend named Kathy and wanted to meet her. With anxiety at how her parents would treat Kathy, Sarah invited her new friend over. Watching them together, her parents realized that it wasn't her appearance that needed to change but how they treated her and made her feel. They decided what Sarah needed was more attention. They now give her more attention by spending time with her.

#### Ella and Willow

In a Perfect World, there would be no bullying and that would stop the hurting of others and suicidal events. With acceptance of everyone, less people would be hurting emotionally and physically. Less people would have to go to doctors and that would save money. One day Timmy was walking and a group of boys who that they could do whatever they wanted decided to pick on him. He tried to pass unnoticed but they started yelling at him and pushing him around. As he tried to fight back they got more excited and hit beat him up and took his backpack and money. They left him there hurt in the road. Timmy tried to cover it up because he was scared and embarrassed. They did this several days until he was so hurt he had to go to the ER. Then his parents were able to call the police and helped stop the boys from hurting him. He was glad they finally found out and realized he couldn't stop it on his own. We need everyone to work together to stop Bullies.

#### Travis and Kole

In a Perfect World, "bullying" is a forgotten word. Hatred is nothing but a dim memory, everyone is accepted, racism and prejudice are foreign concepts. One day a Middle Eastern boy came to school in his traditional attire. He looked and spoke different from the other classmates. He barely spoke English but even not understanding what the others were saying, he could tell he was being teased and withdrew. He was scared and lonely. For several weeks, the kids either picked on him or ignored him. One day the class got to go on a field trip to the Nike campus. The class clown was fooling around outside by the lake and fell in. He started yelling because he could not swim. The foreign boy jumped in and saved him. After that, none of the kids made fun of them and got to know him. They helped him learn English and became his friends. They learned that knowing someone from another culture is actually fun.

William, Jordan and Chris

In a Perfect World, people would be color blind. Skin color would be pointless, and appearance even less important. People would care about personalities, not perfection. And then even though we will never be able to break free from the media trying to make us idolize "perfect people" in social media, movies, TV and such, we can still focus on accepting others for being different. Our society needs to realize that being perfect isn't reality and if we spend so much time and money and emotion on trying to reach something we can't do, we will never be happy. We aren't spending our time learning and finding what can make us happy. Being perfect just isn't all it's cracked up to be.

#### Katie, Juliette and Genevieve

In a Perfect World, nobody would make each other feel like they don't belong. There was once a girl who sat alone every day. Everyone thought she sat alone because she thought she was better than everyone else. Then, one day Sally decided to figure out why Cindy Sat alone all the time. She went up and sat by her and just said hi. Cindy was so shocked it was hard to say anything back. At first Sally thought, "Yep she is so stuck up." but decided to keep trying. After talking to Cindy for a week she realized that everyone had it all wrong. She didn't sit by herself because she thought she was better, it was because she was very shy. Eventually everyone warmed up to Cindy and realized what a nice person she was. So, before you judge someone, get to know them. They may not be what they seemed!

### Devyn, Zoie and Eleni

In a Perfect World, no one is alone. Think of the example of the girl you see walking alone in the hallway each day. She is shy, quiet, a bit over weight and doesn't wear a smile on her face. She may be bullied, picked on, teased or just as bad-ignored every day of her life. That could all go away if only she had a friend. To have a friend we are told to be a friend. Sometimes we need to be the ones to make the first step for those who have seen too much rejection. We have to go out of our comfort zones and take a chance at being someone that hangs out with those considered odd or different. In a Perfect World there wouldn't be the odd ones out. Everyone would be there for everyone else; everyone would say hi, everyone would ask you how you are and no one would care about race, language, looks, size, age or anything else. We could and should all be one!

## Joyce and Marina

In a Perfect World, we have good leaders of our Country. We have people who care about what the government is doing and try to be a part of it. They help their leaders to know what is going on and vote. We would have justice for everyone with equal laws and representation. Our leaders would be honorable, caring and understanding. The laws would allow everyone to live a life in pursuit of happiness. Right now we have a dismal voting rate and yet everyone likes to complain. We can only be free as a nation and a community if we make our voices heard.

Khris, Aaron and Branden